

THE LION'S ROAR



The monthly newsletter for Penn State Berks



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OUR CHANCELLOR WELCOMES YOU!

Dear Penn State Berks Students,

We Are ... very excited to welcome incoming and returning students to Penn State Berks! This is the beginning – or continuation – of an exciting journey for you as you discover new interests and learn more about yourself as independent young adults.

At Penn State Berks, you will have an opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty members who truly care about your academic success. If you find that you have concerns dealing with the adjustment to college or being on your own for the first time – or anything else – our dedicated staff members are here to support you. You will soon find that the faculty and staff at Penn State Berks will become your second family.

I'm very pleased to say that Penn State Berks is a welcoming community for students, faculty and staff of all cultures and backgrounds. The college embraces diversity and we are committed to fostering an inclusive campus that celebrates the unique strengths of all cultures.

This is a time of discovery, academically and socially. Take the time to get to know the campus and all the co-curricular experiences that can enrich your studies and help to develop your leadership skills – all while making lifelong friends and memories along the way.

I look forward to meeting you in person!

Best wishes,
Dr. George Grant, Jr.
Chancellor, Penn State Berks

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ACADEMIC ADVISING OPPORTUNITIES



Important Dates

August 15 - September 6 Intent to Graduate Filing Period*

August 19: First-Year Student Move In (Residential Students Only)**

August 21: Upperclassmen Student Move In (Residential Students Only)

August 19 - 21 Welcome Weekend

August 22 First Day of Classes

August 27 Regular **Drop** Deadline at 11:59pm (for full semester courses)

August 28 Regular **Add** Deadline at 11:59pm (for full semester courses)

August 28 Late Drop Begins (for full semester courses)***

August 29

- Fall 2022 Bill Due
- Installment Payment Plan (IPP) enrollment deadline****

LOOKING AHEAD

September 5 Labor Day (NO CLASSES)

*Students who intend on graduating in December 2022, should file their intent to graduate in LionPATH. More information [here](#)👉

**Learn more about Residential Student move in [here](#)👉

***The Late Drop period ends on Nov. 11 at 11:59pm. This date applies to full semester courses. Learn more [here](#)👉

****If you enroll in the Installment Payment Plan (IPP) by the first payment (8/29), your second, third, and fourth installments are due on the 22nd of the three subsequent months. Read more on the IPP, [here](#)👉

WALK-IN ADVISING

Academic Advising Office
160 Franco Building
610-396-6280

Want to change your schedule? Students can DROP classes until Saturday, Aug. 27 (11:59pm) and ADD classes until Sunday, Aug. 28 (11:59pm). Always speak with an academic adviser (and Financial Aid) before making any schedule changes because those changes can impact a student's progress towards degree completion (and, potentially, their financial aid eligibility).

Students can meet with an academic adviser virtually or in-person between August 22 - 26 from 8:00am – 4:00pm.

- **Virtual:** Join via Zoom
<https://psu.zoom.us/j/99246810817>👉
- **In-person:** Come to the office and sign in for a walk-in appointment. You will have the option to meet with an adviser in-person or virtually.

Fall 2022 Course Load

Top 4 Reasons To Meet With An Adviser This Semester

1. Create an appropriate **course schedule** to remain on track towards graduation.
2. Develop a deeper understanding of **requirements and/or changes** to your major.
3. Learn about **policies and deadlines** that could benefit you (e.g., grade forgiveness; course repeats, etc.).
4. Explore **opportunities and resources** that could augment your academic experiences.

- A student's academic course load will impact their degree progression and financial aid eligibility.
 - To be considered a full-time student, you must enroll (and maintain for the duration of the semester) at least 12 credits.
 - To be considered a part-time student, you must enroll (and maintain for the duration of the semester) between 6 and 11 credits.
 - Learn more [here](#)👉
- **TIP:** Review your Fall 2022 course schedule in LionPATH within the first two days of the semester. If you are not enrolled in the minimum number of credits needed (based on your preferred part-time or full-time status) meet with an academic adviser before the first Friday of the semester to adjust your schedule!

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NEW STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Welcome Weekend 2022

DATES: August 19, 20, & 21

Learn more and see the full schedule:

<https://berks.psu.edu/fall-welcome>

Penn State Berks offers a variety of programs, events, and activities designed to welcome new students to our campus community. These events are created and facilitated by student leaders (i.e., Orientation Leaders) with the goal of helping each student transition to Berks--whether that transition is from high school, from another institution, or returning to formal education after some time away. The weekend is an exciting way to begin your journey at Berks, make new friends, and acclimate to the campus.

First Week of Fall 2022

DATES: August 22 through 28, 2022

Check your Penn State email for more details!

The Office of Campus Life in collaboration with Campus Activities Board, presents a week-long schedule of activities and programs to help students connect with the campus community.

- **First Year Convocation on Monday, August 22 at 12:15pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** An official introduction to academic and student life at Penn State Berks for **all** new students.
- **Club Rush on Wednesday, August 24 at 12:15pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Involvement fair where all students can learn more about and begin connecting with the various clubs and organizations at Penn State Berks.
- **Beaver Re-dedication Ceremony on Friday, August 26 at 2pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Join President Neeli Bendapudi, the Beaver Family, and other guests for a special ceremony celebrating the full opening of the Beaver Athletic and Wellness Center.
- **Arts and Lecture Series starts with Animal Adventures on Friday, August 26 at 6pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Arts and Lecture is a year long series which brings popular figures and world-renowned researchers to campus.
- **Penn State Berks Community Weekend on August 27 and August 28**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Offers additional opportunities to make connections through activities facilitated by our student leaders.
- **AND MORE!** Check out the Campus Calendar [here](#) or pick up a semester long activity calendar in room 019 Perkins Student Center.

This Week at Berks

Keep up with weekly events by checking *This Week at Berks*, your weekly events and announcements newsletter! It is sent to current Berks students by email (to PSU email addresses only) every Sunday evening at 8:00pm!

Stay informed of campus activities, follow us on social media!

INSTAGRAM:

@berkscampuslife
@berkswelcomeleaders
@psubk_cab



FACEBOOK:

Official Penn State Berks Class of 2026
Penn State Berks Student Life



Residential Students

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Aug. 5:** Room Exchange eBoard Closes (12pm)
- **Aug. 10:** Penn State Berks Housing and Food Services Webinar
 - **WHAT:** For incoming students to learn about what to/what not to bring, understand move in, and ask questions.
 - Register [here](#)
- **Aug. 19:** Incoming First-Year Student Arrival (10am - 4pm)
- **Aug. 21:** Upper-Class Student Arrival (10am - 4pm)



Learn more about living on campus at <https://liveon.psu.edu/berks>

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

FREE

MATH PEERS & PROFS TUTORING



WHAT: FREE math help sessions hosted by math faculty and math teaching assistants

WHEN: Mondays and Wednesdays during common hour-- from 12:15pm - 1:15pm

WHERE: 222 Luerssen

COURSES SUPPORTED: Math 4, 21, 22, 26, 34, 35, 41, 110 and Stat 100

No appointment necessary!

FREE

LEARNING CENTER & WRITING CENTER PEER TUTORING



Need help with Math, Science, or Study Skills?

Make an appointment with our Learning Center Tutors [here](#)👉

Need help with a paper, speech, resume, or other written material?

Make an appointment with our Writing Center Tutors [here](#)👉

Peer Tutoring is always FREE!

Student Disability Resources (SDR)

Students who had learning accommodations in high school can continue to receive learning accommodations at Penn State. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact or visit the Student Disability Resources office **as soon as possible** to discuss academic accommodations as they may differ from those offered in high school.

Learn more [here](#)👉

👉 Data suggests that students who utilize academic services have higher success and retention rates when compared to students in the same courses who do **not** utilize those same services. Peer tutoring begins week 2, so set your schedule and habits for semester-long success!

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Thun Library Services

- The Thun Librarians are here to help with your research! Schedule a consultation👉 and learn more👉
- Located in the Thun Library, Media Commons offers digital and multimedia technology resources to Berks students, faculty, and staff. Learn more about how to reserve Berks Media Commons equipment and spaces!👉
- Course reserves are textbooks for students' use in specific courses. Search [here](#)👉 or contact Barb Lessig (bz11@psu.edu) for assistance.

Learn more about Thun [here](#)👉

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FINANCIAL AID ANNOUNCEMENTS



WHAT IS VERIFICATION?

Verification is a federal regulation that requires colleges and universities to verify the information provided by students and parents on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

- If you completed the 2022-2023 FAFSA, you may see verification requests in LionPATH in your HOLDS or TO-DO List. Complete all requests as soon as possible!
- The requests will be for the "2023" aid year in LionPATH. For questions about verification, learn more [here](#) 

Veteran's Benefits



The Registrar's Office is the point of contact for all VA certifications.

Contact the Registrar's Office

Telephone: 610-396-6085
Email: BKVeterans@psu.edu

Am I Making Progress?

What is Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)?

All universities that award federal student aid are required by law to have academic progress standards in place for all federal student aid recipients. The Penn State Federal Student Assistance (Aid) Academic Progress Standard encourages students to work toward an educational objective while completing their program of study within a federally determined time frame. Students who do not meet the student aid academic progress standard are not eligible for most forms of student aid.

When is Satisfactory Academic Progress reviewed?

Satisfactory Academic Progress is reviewed yearly and determines a student's Federal financial aid eligibility.

How is Satisfactory Academic Progress determined?

SAP: Two Key Factors

- Cumulative GPA of a 2.00 or higher
- Completion rate of 67% or higher. This means passing 67% of the TOTAL credits (not courses) you have ever attempted at Penn State.

Learn more [here](#) 

Contact Financial Aid

Email: BerksFinAid@psu.edu

Phone: 610-396-6070*

**No answer? Leave a message with your name, phone number, 9-digit PSU ID number, and reason for calling!*